



LITH

# KNIGHT



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March-April 1996.

## THE 1918-1919 FRACTIONAL CURRENCY OF TELŠIAI

By Aleksandras Kubilas  
Vilnius, Lithuania

For one reason or another, very little research has been done on Lithuanian regional temporary currencies. Possibly this is because there is a lack of archival documentation, but more likely because it is so difficult to find original notes.

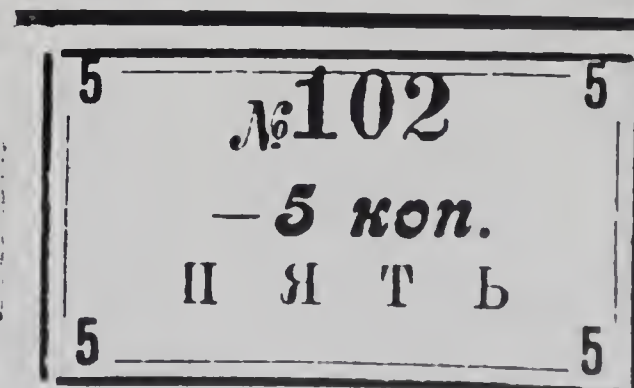
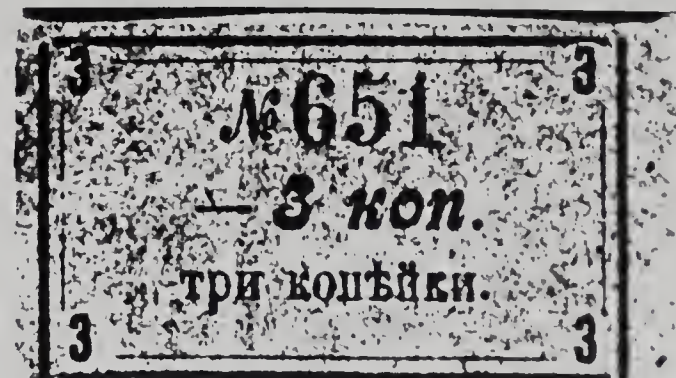
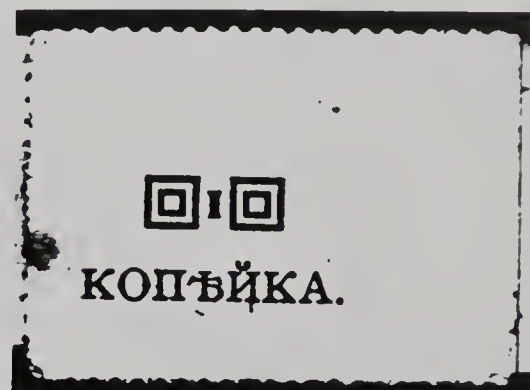
The 1918-1919 Telšiai fractional notes described here may be the only examples currently in Lithuania since they have not been encountered in private collections, nor seen in exhibitions or museums, or described in publications. On seeing these notes, the curators of the Samogitian Museum "Alka" in Telšiai were amazed at their existence.

At the end of World War I, armed bands of old and new occupiers, Bolsheviki, Bermondists, and Poles, roamed throughout Lithuania for a long time. Because of these invading foreigners, different regions at times were detached from the central government of the Republic. As a result, at one time or another there appeared regional postage stamps (Raseiniai, Telšiai), and notes (Klaipėda, Panevėžys, Rusnė, Šilutė, Telšiai, Vilnius, and possibly Kaunas).

After World War I, many factories, especially in countries that had lost the war (Russia, Austria, and Germany) issued regional notes in response to the shortage of official currency or as protection against inflation in areas formerly occupied by the losing occupiers. Likewise, in the Baltic countries, regional temporary currencies were issued until the national currency was introduced. It was under similar circumstances that the Telšiai notes were issued.

It was a long time ago that I first became acquainted with these notes, and then it was indirectly. I obtained a copy of Dr. Arnold Keller's catalog, *Paper Currencies of the First World War, Part I, Europe* (see bibliography). The catalog had been censored by Soviet censors and had segments cut out. In truth, the author covered in detail Lithuanian national banknotes as well as the regional issues of Panevėžys, Sėda, and Vilnius. The only mention of the Telšiai notes was (quote) "According to one source, at the

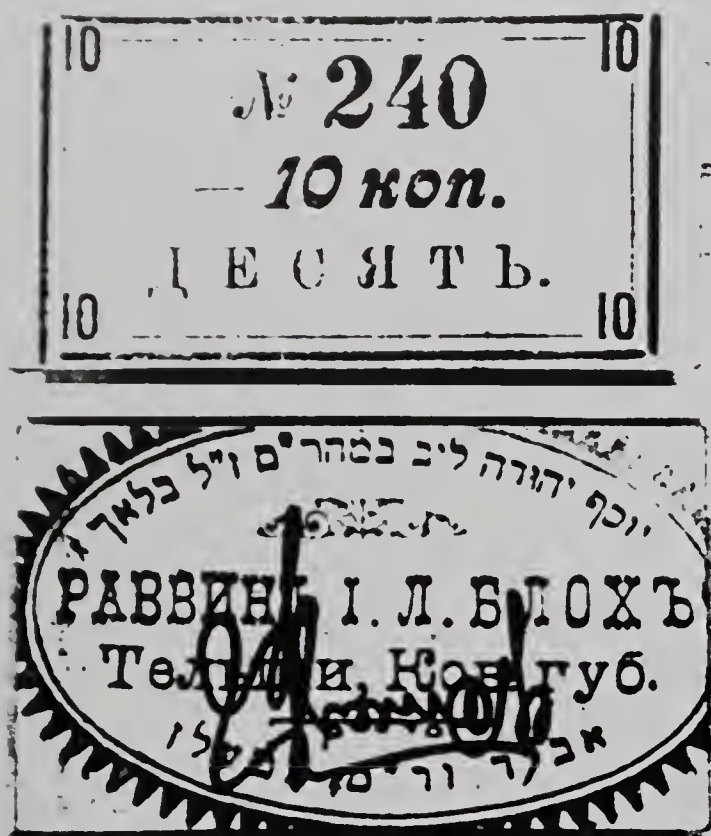
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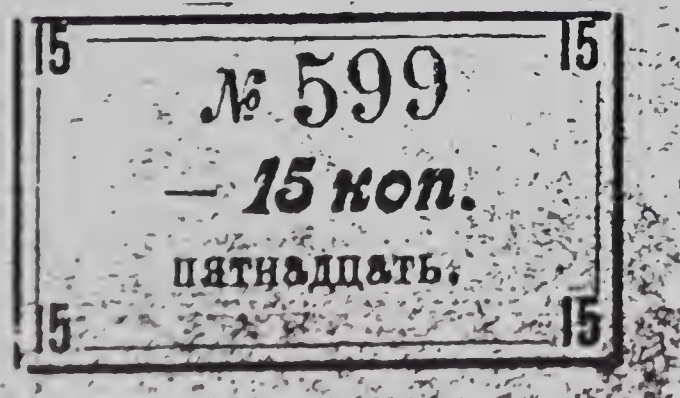
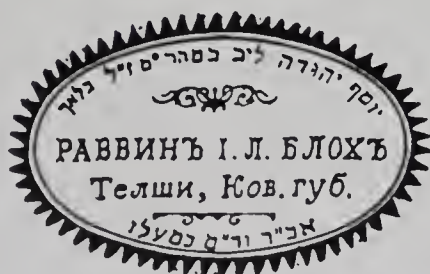
# THE 1918-1919 FRACTIONAL CURRENCY OF TELŠIAI

*Continued from page 1....*



ABOVE: 10 Kopeck face and back, with seal of Rabbi I.L. Bloch, and Signature type I. The 15 kopeck note also has the same back.

Below: Seal of Rabbi I. L. Bloch. Russian text translates: "Rabbi I.L. Bloch, Telšiai Gubernija." Yiddish text (reads from right to left) translates: (top) "Yosef Judah Heart, son of Ben, Mattaram [an acronym] His memory should be a blessing, Bloch." (bottom) "Father Senior Member House of Justice and Head of School in Telšiai."



end of 1918 and the beginning of 1919, some Lithuanian cities issued their own temporary currencies, for example, Telšiai."

Of course, this scant piece of information haunted me. I needed more information, if not to see an original note, then at least some description in the literature, information on denominations, where they were produced, what was written on them, etc. I did not find much about the Telšiai notes in the Polish literature, except that in the magazine *Buletyn Numizmatyczny*, 1985, Nr. 7-8 issue, in the late Jonas Kareckas-Karys' article "Currencies of Lithuania 1914-1940," the editor had added a note that in 1918-1919 notes were issued in Telšiai.

Then, a year later in 1986, in the same magazine, Nr. 9-12, Slovomir Louk gives a brief description and illustrates 6 Telšiai notes. Further, he provided facsimiles of the signatures and two seals stamped on the backs of the notes. Now, when I can handle these notes, a table of their features can be presented. From the table, it is evident that the notes were of 6 denominations: 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, and 15 kopecks. Evidently, the familiar pre-war Russian denominational system was maintained. Until archival documentation about these notes is found, it is not possible to dismiss the possibility that higher denominations of the notes could have been issued.

The 1 kopeck fractional note, which was issued in the largest number, was also the smallest in size (29 x 39 mm.). It has perforated edges just as the first Lithuanian postage stamps of 1919. Until a full sheet of these notes is found, no one can say how many notes made up a sheet. A full sheet would indicate what proportion of the notes were perforated on all four sides and how many on three sides--how many were unperforated on the left, right, top or the bottom edge. The notes of all the remaining denominations are cut straight along the edge, but not uniformly. They vary in width between 28 and 33 mm., and between 52 and 54 mm. in length.

It appears that the printer used what paper he could get or what was on hand. Since the notes are so small, it appears that economic considerations were a factor. The 1, 5, and 10 kopeck notes were printed on gray-white cardboard, and 15 kopeck notes, on blue-violet cardboard, the 2 kopeck notes, on gray-green paper, and the 3 kopeck notes, on blue-green paper which was thicker than that of the 2 kopeck note. Although we do not know where they were printed, the work could have been done in even a small printing shop.

LEFT: Face of 15 kopeck note. NOTE: All illustrations are 1 1/2 times size unless noted.

*Continued on page 4....*





Several years ago, one of our members Peter G. Zinkus sent us this unusual stock certificate from the Lithuanian Sales Corporation. We are making room this issue to feature this item to our members. During the 1920s there were numerous Lithuanian organizations that raised money for their homeland. And of course there were numerous Lithuanian immigrants that came to America and went into business for themselves.

One would not be surprised learning of Lithuanian businessmen in places like Illinois, Pennsylvania, or Michigan. But ARIZONA?! That's right! This month we are presenting a bonafide Lithuanian stock certificate from the state of Arizona! It is dated March 24, 1921.

The purchaser of this 1 share of stock was C. Kondrotavičius. The secretary of the company was a B. B. Valentuke, according to his signature. The certificate measures 208 x 164 mm. This particular certificate is numbered 3634.

Just as there were Lithuanian "Good Fors" tokens issued in places such as in Chicago and Philadelphia, so too these type of collectible items provide a link between America and Lithuania. As collectors, we wonder if there were any Lithuanian-American bank presidents or cashiers whose hand signatures appear on any U.S. National Bank Notes? These banknotes were issued from the 1860s through the 1920s here in the U.S. If so, let us know and send us a copy!

## WANT/FOR SALE ADS

WANTED: I am a coin collector here in Spain. I am interested in collecting coins of other countries (not for commercial interest). I would be interested in trading Spanish coins for Lithuanian coins, both modern and medieval.

Francisco Hernandez Pacheco, Arda Manvel Gorria 28  
30 E. 29013 Malaga, SPAIN.



# 4. THE 1918-1919 FRACTIONAL CURRENCY OF TELŠIAI

Continued from page 2.....

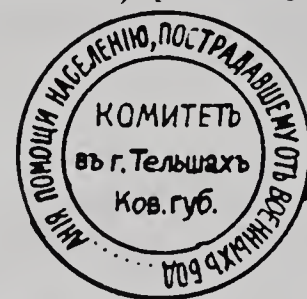
TELSCHÉ Hauptstraße



Telšiai is a town of 20,000 persons located in NW Lithuania, 75 km. east of Palanga. It's population at the turn of the century was 6,000. The Jewish theological school Jeshiva was established here in 1873, and was one of the world's largest, attracting students from around the world. The school moved to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1938.

TOP LEFT: The main street of Telšiai in 1916. CENTER LEFT: Celebrating British recognition of Lithuanian independence in Telšiai on September 5, 1919.

BELOW: The round seal found on the 1, 2, and 3 kopeck notes. The circular legend translates, "The Movement to Aid the Population Victimized by Military/War Troubles." The center portion translates, "Committee in the city of Telšiai, Kaunas Gubernija [Province]."



ABOVE: Back of 1 kopeck note, with stamped committee seal. Notice that the seal is larger than the note itself.

The 1 kopeck notes are printed very primitively. The name of the denomination is printed in Russian, there is a Roman numeral "I" between two square ornaments. All of the printing on all denominations is with black ink and in the Russian language. The denominations above 1 kopeck are numbered at the top, "No." followed by Arabic numerals. Below the number of the note, the denomination is denoted by a number. On the third line is the value of the denomination in words. All the notes, except for the 1 kopeck, have two lines along the edge with the inside line being thinner than the outer line.

At each corner, between the lines is printed the value of the denomination as a number. The 2 through 15 kopeck notes are numbered mechanically with a three-digit number.





Beth Hamedrash" (Lydų Synagoga)

TELŠIAI.

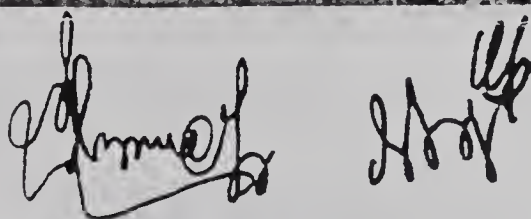
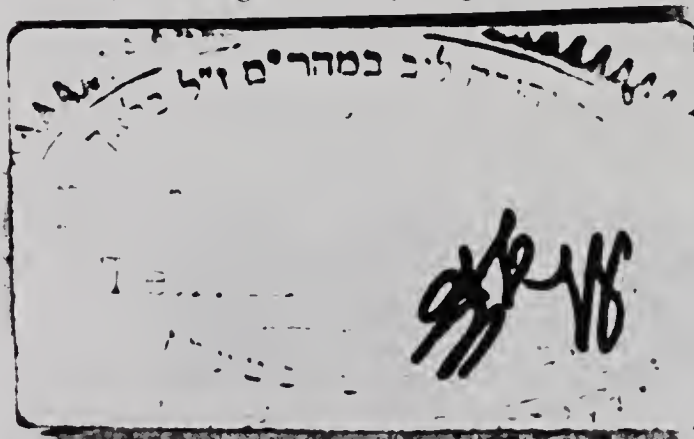


„Jeshiva“ (Lydų Mokykla)

ABOVE: (Top) The Telšiai Jewish Synagogue "Beth Hamedrash" during the First Republic Period 1918-1940.

ABOVE: (Bottom) The Telšiai Jewish primary school "Jeshiva" during the First Republic Period 1918-1940.

BELOW: The reverse of the 5 kopeck note, featuring the variety 2 signature.



SIGNATURE VARIETIES 1 (LEFT) AND 2 (RIGHT).

The uniface notes are stamped on the reverse by one of two stamps, and except for the 1 kopeck notes, are signed by one of two signatures. See the table for more details. The different stamps and signatures could be due to logistic considerations, to expedite the stamping and signing.

A better explanation for the different seals and signatures cannot be offered. The round seal, "The Telšiai Committee to Aid the War Victims" was used on the smaller denomination notes (1, 2, and 3 kopecks). It is the humbler of the two stamps, it is round and in Russian.

The higher denomination notes (5, 10, and 15 kopecks) are with the more elaborate oval stamp of the rabbi of Telšiai, I. L. Bloch. On that stamp, besides the Russian, there is a Hebrew legend. Since the notes are numbered by three digit numbers, it could be concluded that they could have been coupons of assistance from the committee. We can describe the notes, however, we have no information as to how the notes functioned in society and how influential they were in the economic life of Telšiai. Just the fact that the stamp of the rabbi is on the larger denomination notes suggests that these notes, to a larger or smaller extent, just as the committee, was in Jewish hands.

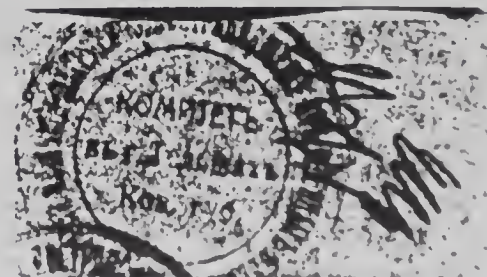
This should not be surprising since the Jewish communities living in cities and villages often made up about half of the population. Right after World War I, most of the Jews were patriotic towards Lithuania and eagerly participated in the reconstruction of the nation, participating in banking, commerce, industry, etc. They also participated in politics and the cultural life of the nation. The Jews also had their economic difficulties. Thus, the committee aided all residents who suffered from the war, including Jews, who were quite numerous in Telšiai. Especially in Telšiai, besides the expected synagogues, stores, shops and schools, there was one of the largest rabbinical schools in the world.

Not everything has been said about these notes. Thus, it will be necessary to return to them, depending on what will be discovered in museums or among collectors.



ABOVE: 2 kopeck reverse with Variety 1 signature. Actual size.

BELOW: 3 kopeck reverse with Variety 2 signature. Actual size.



Continued on page 8....



# 6. LITHUANIAN NUMISMATIC DICTIONARY

By  
Jonas K. Karys 30.



English translation by  
V.L.G. Matelis

Continued from last issue....

MATRICA/Matrix. See Štampas/Dies.

MAŽASIS GRAŠIS/Small Grašis. The depreciated Czech grash, struck by Rudolph II in the second half of the 16th century, and reminiscent of the Prague groschen known in Lithuania only in name.

MEDALIONAS/Medallion. 1. A medal of special size, at times oval or angular, often uniface, or both sides separately struck, on any type of metal. 2. A large coin of the Roman emperors of gold, silver or even copper, struck for a special occasion, not so much for circulation as for commemoration. 3. A "coin" struck by circulation dies, but not of the metal designated for it, and even of a distinct weight. For example, the sold commemorative 10-Litu piece on a gold planchet struck in 1938 in the Lithuanian Republic as a gift to the then current President of the state. 4. A jeweler's product, with any type of frame containing a picture, worn around the neck as an ornament.

MEDALIS/Medal. 1. In antiquity, a large coin of precious metal. For example, in the 4th century B.C., the coin struck by Gelo, ruler of Syracuse to immortalize the victory at Olympus. 2. In the middle ages and later, larger coins were called medals, struck with the bust of the ruler or particular legends, normally not placed in circulation, and esteemed only as historical or art keepsakes. 3. In modern times, a flat metal disc, most often in circular form, either founded or struck to commemorate some historical event, or to present to some outstanding or deserving person. There is no connection now between a medal and a coin, in their functions.



MEDALISTAS/Medalist. A sculptor or a designer of medals (or coins). His creations were and can be as much models for further processing, as for finished engravings of medals (and coins) or for production of dies.

Medaliai: 1. sid. romenų (Constantijaus Gaes-Gallus); 2-4. Lietuvos Respublikos garbės medaliai (savanorių-kūrėjų, Vytauto D. ordino, 10 metų Nepriklausomybės); 5. sid. medalis Lietuvos Nepriklausomybės paskelbimo 50 m. sukakčiai paminėti (mušd. tremtyje, JAV-bėse, 1968). ±2-4 sumaž.

MĖGINYS/Trial Piece. Any type of metal flan into which a coin die has been struck, for purposes of testing.

MEILĖS TOKENAS/Love Tokens. A coin whose one or both sides have been obliterated purposely to produce a clean surface upon which have been inscribed certain words or scenes representing to a love one, harmony and symbolism.



1938 projektuotos Lietuvoje 2 Lt sid. monetos mėginiai.

MERK. A high purity silver coin of Scotland in 1591-92, weighing about 13.5 gr. and equal to 2/3 of an English pound.

METALINIAI PINIGAI/Metal Money. Legal full value coins, and likewise subsidiary below full value coins for minor exchange, produced from precious metals, billon, bronze, or whatever kind of lesser value metal.

CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE....



# MEDALS FOR THE FOUNDING VOLUNTEERS OF THE LITHUANIAN ARMY HOUSED IN THE LITHUANIAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

7.

By Vincas Ruzas, Vilnius

[From VORUTA, June 16-30 1995, No. 23-24. Translated by Aleksandras Radžius]

In 1928, in preparation for the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Independence of Lithuania and the establishment of the Lithuanian Army, the Medal for the Founding Volunteers of the Lithuanian Army was established. With it, all the volunteers who joined before the 1918-1920 mobilization and who fought for Lithuania's independence were honored.

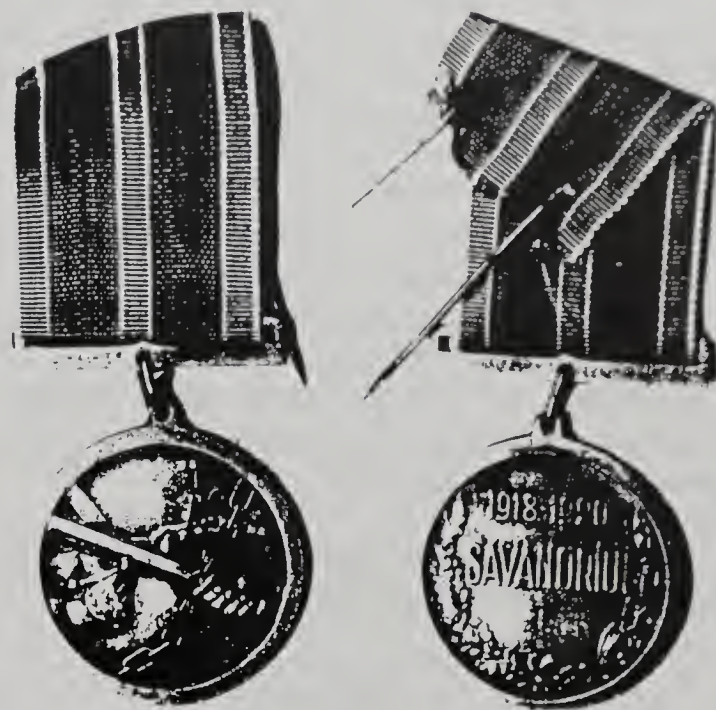
Up to April 12, 1937, 9,981 soldiers were recognized as founding volunteers. The designer of the medal was a student of the Kaunas Art School, Adomas Smetona. It was manufactured by the Swiss firm of Huguenin Brothers. It is known that 12,000 persons were awarded the Founding Volunteer Medal.

In early 1995, 20 Founding Volunteer Medals were housed in the Lithuanian National Museum. The first two medals arrived at the Museum in 1954 as part of the medal collection of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences. Another medal was acquired when the collection of the Vilnius Folklore Museum was absorbed.

Some were acquired from private collectors: Two from Uršule, wife of the famous collector Povilas Karazija, one each from J. Leonas, A. Gričius, and A. Astikas. Two medals are in good condition. Other medals are either without the ribbon or the ribbon is frayed.

In 1992, the Museum of the History of Religion was abolished and its collections were turned over to the Lithuanian National Museum and with them, three Founding Volunteer Medals which originally came from J. Miškinis, G. Janulevičius, and K. Klimovičius.

In 1994, the State Museum (formerly the Revolutionary Museum) was absorbed by the Lithuanian National Museum and another eight Founding Volunteer Medals were acquired. One belonged to a participant of



the 1918-1921 wars, V. Radavičius (born in 1896). Three medals had belonged to A. Astikas, one each had belonged to a. Markevičius, S. Jokūbauskas, and M. Galperinas. In this collection, two medals are in good condition, others are either without the ribbon or the ribbon is frayed.

The last medal that the Lithuanian National Museum acquired was awarded to Moize Stadailnikas who volunteered on December 30, 1918. He was from the village of Genioniai in the Onuškiai District. The medal was turned over to the Museum by his daughter Aldona Marija Stadalnikaite.

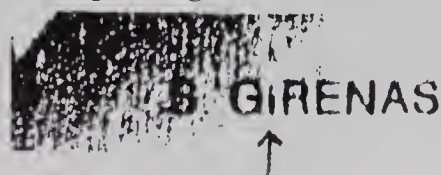
## SO AS TO AID NUMISMATISTS

By Aida Marteckaitė

[Published in Lietuvos Rytas, September 29, 1995]

Mr. Vytautas Aleksiejūnas, numismatist at the Bank of Lithuania informs us that the inscription on the edge of the not-issued .925 silver 1994 50 Litu Lillhammer Winter Olympic pattern reads: "CITIUS. ALTIUS. FORTIUS." This translates: "Faster, Higher, Stronger."

Some of the 1991 10 Litu banknotes featuring Darius-Girėnas have a printing "mistake" on them. The letter "I" in "GIRENAS" under the bust is weak, making it look like a small "i." Some catalogers have chosen to make this a variety, but it is just a bad printing. This editor has seen other notes of other denominations with portions of letters missing. It is analogous to a weak strike coin, and should not command any premium price. The weak printing is illustrated below:



The Government has partially modified its decision with regard to items that can be sent by mail into and out of Lithuania.

According to the Government decision made in May, Lithuanian and foreign currency could not be sent by mail with the exception of that which must be sent by the Bank of Lithuania or its branches for the purpose of exchanging samples. All national banks were permitted to send only collectable and commemorative coins.

After this decision was adopted, the Bank of Lithuania received many letters from collectors around the world requesting Lithuanian currencies for their numismatic collections. The Bank was permitted to send out only samples of banknotes and coins.

At the request of the Bank of Lithuania, the Government modified its decision. Now the Bank and its branches will be permitted to mail Lithuanian and foreign currencies. All Lithuanian banks will continue to be permitted to send currencies for collections and commemorative coins by mail.



[EDITOR'S NOTE: Do ANY of our LNA members have any of these? If so, please let this editor know, and enclosed a photocopy. We will convey this information to the author for his continuing research.]

REFERENCES: Karys, Jonas Kareckas. Pieniadz na Litwie 1914-1920. *Biuletyn numizmatyczny*. Nr. 7-8 Warszawa, 1985, pg. 151.

Keller, A. *Das Papiergeld des Ersten Weltkriegs-Teil I. Europa*. Berlin, 1957, pg. 52.

Lowkis, S. Bony Telsz na Żmuidzi odnalezione. *Biuletyn numizmatyczny*. Nr. 9-12, Warszawa, 1986, pp. 229-230.

BELOW: TABLE SHOWING KNOWN TELŠIAI NOTES AND THEIR VARIETIES.

Face Value	Perforated	Cut	Grey-white cardboard	Grey-green paper	Blue-green paper, thicker	Blue-violet cardboard	Committee seal, no signature	Committee seal, signature I	Committee seal, signature II	Rabbi's seal, signature I	Rabbi's seal, signature II	Note
1 kopeck	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	Not numbered
2 kopeck	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
3 kopeck	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-
5 kopeck	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-
10 kopeck	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-
15 kopeck	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-



Five years is a rather short period of time in the course of history, but it is very important and significant for Lithuania. Historical meaning of this period is defined by January 13th - the day, which outlined the only and the most desirable aim of the nation - Independence.

## COMMEMORATIVE SILVER 50 LITU COIN ISSUED

The Bank of Lithuania has issued a commemorative .925 silver 50 Litu coin to commemorate the 5th anniversary of "Bloody Sunday" of January 13, 1991, when 14 Lithuanians were killed by Soviet troops defending the television tower in Vilnius.

The coin was designed by Antanas Žukauskas. It weighs 23.3 grams, and has a diameter of 34 mm. The inscribed edge translates, "And those baptized with blood become life-giving again," which is a quote from Kazys Bradūnas. The coin was minted at the Lithuanian Mint in Vilnius.

We are reproducing here a portion of the brochure issued by the Bank of Lithuania promoting the coin.



# January 13th

## THE BEGINNING OF THE REBIRTH OF THE LITHUANIAN NATION



In 1988 the Lithuanian Reform movement "Sąjūdis" emerged and the process of national revival started. The Lithuanian nation chose peaceful, parliamentary means for achieving its Independence. Disclosure of historical truth, public denouncing of the secret Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939 and the events of 1940 in Lithuania, liberation of people and democratic election of the government made the March 11, 1990 - the day



of Declaration of the restoration of the independent State of Lithuania - possible.

#### FIVE YEARS AGO

The Soviet Union did not recognize Lithuania's independence and declared a blockade upon the country, and increased havoc within the Republic. At that time, the nation was unanimous and more persistent about independence as ever before. Feeling only a moral support from the community of the world, Lithuania publicly demonstrated its determination. There was nothing else for the Soviet power to do other than to use brutal military force. As we know now, they had prepared a well thought out plan. Gradual implementation of the plan started on the eve of 1991. Using the decree of the youth conscription for the Soviet Army as a cover, additional military subunits were transferred to Lithuania. Soviet soldiers and military equipment showed up in the streets of Lithuanian cities. The occupation of the state and public buildings started. The Supreme Council of that time called upon the people to defend the State. People from all over Lithuania poured into Vilnius and an unarmed protection of the State buildings was organized. The State defenders who were on duty for many days and nights standing guard were supplied with food which was delivered from villages.

#### THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 13TH

That night the Soviet Army using fire-arms against defenceless people attacked the Television Tower of Vilnius. Earlier the Press



House and the buildings of Radio and Television had been captured. Soldiers were beating people who were present there. People tried to run away while soldiers pursued them beating with butts. One could already hear shooting near the TV Tower. Thirteen people were killed, hundreds were wounded. By means of mass media the world became aware of this bloody event. Political condemnation of the Soviet Union began. Lithuania

was rendered every kind of material and moral assistance and solidarity with Lithuania was expressed. This was the beginning of the real recognition of the independence of Lithuania by Western countries.

Long rows of people stringed out to the Vilnius Sport Palace. People came to say their last farewell to the perished defenders of Lithuania. All of them were awarded with the First Class Order of Vytyis Cross established in 1919. Nine of the people who had perished because of the Soviet aggression were buried in the Soldiers' Cemetery in Antakalnis. Soldiers of different nationalities who had been killed during the wars of XIX-XX centuries took their rest in this Cemetery. The graves of these defenceless people are decorated with the sculpture (sculpt. S.Kuzma) symbolizing one more victim of the fighters for Lithuania's freedom to their Motherland. Many of the deceased were young people whose lives had just begun.

By the decision of the Presidium  
of the Supreme Council of the  
Republic of Lithuania  
people who had distinguished  
themselves in this struggle received  
the First Class Order of Vytyis Cross  
as a posthumous award for their heroic  
bravery and endurance. Their names are:

Loreta Asanavičiūtė  
Virginijus Druskis  
Darius Gerbutavičius  
Rolandas Jankauskas  
Rimantas Juknevičius  
Alvydas Kanapinskas  
Algimantas Petras Kavoliukas  
Vytautas Koncėvičius  
Vidas Maciulevičius  
Titas Masiulis  
Alvydas Matulka  
Apolinaras Juozas Povilaitis  
Ignas Šimulionis  
Vytautas Vaitkus

**Eternal glory to the heroes**



*You, our members of the Lithuanian Numismatic Association are cordially invited to participate in our 100th issue of The Knight (May-June 1996) by writing letters giving your observations and comments about our club.*

*We would appreciate letting us know your areas of specialty, some special items in your own collection, as well as stories of how you got started collecting Lithuanian coins, banknotes, tokens, medals, etc.*

*We will be looking forward to receiving your prompt letter for this special issue, devoted to you our members, and our 100th issue milestone.*





# 10. WANT/FOR SALE ADS

**FOR SALE:** The following Lithuanian Medals. All UNC. 1984 St. Casimir bronze 2" \$19; 1970 Kaunas Zoological Museum, 36 mm, 4 mm. thick, aluminum, \$13; Darius-Girėnas anniversary Bronze 2" Unc \$24; Lietuvos Kultūros ir Švietimo Ministerija medal showing Vytis, brass 1 3/4", \$12.50; Vilnius, capital of Lithuania white metal 2 1/2" \$17; Maironis medal brass 2 1/4" \$19.50; IV Lith. World Sports Games medal bronze 2 1/8" \$11; 3 Crosses of Vilnius baptism medal 1 1/2" \$16. Please enclose \$3.00 postage and handling for each medal.

Victor Zilaitis, 2018 Heathfield Circle, Sun City Center, FL 33573.

**FOR SALE:** Books Out-of-print: Nepriklausomos Lietuvos Pinigai (Independent Lithuanian Money) by Jonas K. Karys (1953). LAST COPY! \$25. *Cyclopedia of Lithuanian Numismatics* by Dr. Aleksandras M. Račkus (1965), hard-cover, only a few left, \$25.

Basic membership in the Lithuanian-American Genealogy Society, \$10. Regular membership \$25. Receive magazine *Genealogija* and list your inquiries for lost relatives and family names.

**SPECIAL OFFER:** Own merchandize manufactured in new independent Lithuania! Lithuanian-made heavy-duty super sissors! Cuts chicken bones, small twigs, paper, has a bottle opener, and jar opener grtp in center. \$29.95 plus \$3.50 p & h.

Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, 6500 S. Pulaski Road, Chicago, IL 60629. (312) 582-6500. Add \$3.00 p & h. for books.

**FOR SALE:** I have two complete sets of Lithuanian coins 1925-1936-1938 in average circulated condition, housed in the custom Capital Plastic holders. I also have extra individual coins in average circulated condition as follows: 1925 coins: 10c--3; 20c-4; 1 L--2; 2 L--5; 5 L--1; 1936 5 L--2; 1936 10 L--2; 1938 10 L--1. Also 1928 100 Litu banknote in F-VF condition. Will take offers for any or all. Rev. Peter J. Alisauskas, Indian Lake Box 106, White Haven, PA 18661-0106.

**FOR SALE:** I have several Lithuanian coins, banknotes, medals, and Lithuanian books for sale. Write for my price list.

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## NEW COIN HOLDERS MADE !

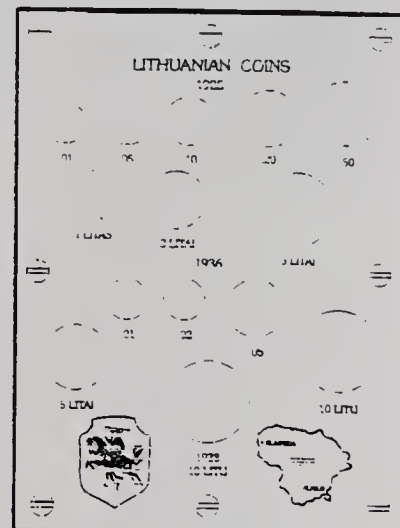
The Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture in Chicago has re-issued special Capital Plastic holders to house the 14 Lithuanian coins issued in 1925, 1936, and 1938. The new blue holders are updated from the previous versions, and contain a contemporary map of Lithuania, as well as updated lettering and denomination designations.

One-hundred of these new holders were manufactured, adding to the 300 ones issued in past years which sold out late last year. The holders were designed by Frank Passic, numismatic curator at the Museum.

These holders measure 6 X 9" and easily fit into a safety-deposit box, as well as being attractive for displays. They make a great way to protect your collection and investment. The cost of the holders are \$30.00 each plus \$5.00 p & h, while the supply lasts.

Write: Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, 6500 S. Pulaski Road, Chicago, IL 60629.

If you are visiting Chicago this summer (perhaps for the Democratic National Convention), by all means make it a point to visit the Museum, and view the numismatic/military decorations room prepared by Frank Passic. Call/write the Museum in advance to make special arrangements to see this room. (312) 582-6500.



## RATKEVIČIUS REMOVED AS BANK CHAIRMAN, REINOLDIJUS ŠARKINAS NEW LIETUVOS BANKAS HEAD

Kazys Ratkevičius, chairman of the Bank of Lithuania whose signature appears on the P-53 1994 1 Litas banknote, resigned his position on January 8, in the wake of the national banking crisis which rocked Lithuania beginning in December, 1995. His resignation was approved by the Lithuanian Seimas on January 23. Ratkevičius had served as chairman since November, 1993.

Jonas Niaura, the deputy chairman of the bank, was named as the temporary chairman of the Bank of Lithuania until a successor could be chosen.

On February 15, the Lithuanian Seimas approved the appointment of Reinoldijus Šarkinas who began his duties immediately. Šarkinas had formerly served as Lithuania's Minister of Finance.



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